

1 have been around the holidays, where he was drinking
2 maybe socially?

3 A Uh-huh.

4 Q And threatened Judge Ficarrotta, and they
5 had to call the judge and warn him?

6 A That's correct.

7 Q Tell us about that.

8 A Okay. That was around December 18th. I
9 believe the 18th was on a Saturday. They were having a
10 party for Carmine's squad and the people that work in
11 the office.

12 Q Is Carmine the husband?

13 A Is her husband, Carmine Pisano. And they
14 were having a party. And Carmine had started acting
15 really funny that day Tara had told me. She said he
16 just wasn't himself.

17 They had the party that night and he
18 wasn't sociable; he pretty much stayed to himself. She
19 kept trying to get him to be sociable. He didn't want
20 to be sociable. He'd been drinking some.

21 She went outside onto the side of their
22 house, and he was out there with two females that work
23 with him. And she went out there and she told him that
24 this didn't look very well, didn't look very good, and
25 for him to come inside and, you know, socialize with

1 the people in there.

2 He started calling her a slut, a whore,
3 every unforsaken name there is, and she went inside.
4 Everybody left. He started screaming and hollering
5 again, told her she was a slut, a whore, and
6 everything. And he had -- was hollering at her so loud
7 that -- he had her pinned on the floor. She had laid
8 down on the floor with her hands up to her face.

9 And in the meantime he told her he was
10 going to go over and he was going to kill Gaspar
11 Ficarrotta. He took a gun -- he took his gun in hand,
12 which means not in his gun belt or anything, but you
13 actually take your gun and hold it in your hand, and he
14 went out the door.

15 She tried to get on the phone. She tried
16 to call Judge Ficarrotta. He had a block on his phone.
17 She couldn't get ahold of him. She called his major,
18 Carmine's major, to tell him what was going on so that
19 they could get somebody over there to his house on
20 Davis Island.

21 I don't know which squad cars went. I
22 know that the deputies went. I don't know if TPD went
23 because I know that's city. But a bunch of people
24 went.

25 A deputy brought Tara and Carmine's, it

1 would be Tara's stepdaughter, little Tara, over to my
2 apartment. I lived in Carrollwood, Sabal Palms,
3 brought them over to my apartment with the dog, and
4 they spent the night with me. And Carmine never went
5 over there, he just went down the street somewhere and
6 went to sleep.

7 Q There were actually marked units that
8 responded to the judge's house?

9 A That's what I was told. I was told that
10 it was never done over the radio. It was all done by
11 the phone. It was all done hush-hush.

12 Q I started to ask you, can I find a report
13 on this incident?

14 A I have no idea. All I know is I was told
15 it was done over the phone.

16 Q Do we know how many units rolled to the
17 judge's place?

18 A No, I have no idea.

19 Q Do we know if it was more than one?

20 A I'm sure it was more than one.

21 Q Do we know if contact was made with the
22 judge, if he was, in fact, warned?

23 A He was warned.

24 Q And we're unaware of any report regarding
25 this at all?

1 A No.

2 Q What kind of discipline, if any, was
3 taken against Carmine for this?

4 A To my knowledge, none.

5 Q Any reason to believe that the Sheriff
6 knows anything about this incident?

7 A I don't know if he does or not. It was
8 all done out of his office. And I know that -- I know
9 that they had to respond because they had a deputy
10 bring Tara to my house, to my apartment, and he
11 escorted Tara to my apartment to make sure it was okay
12 for her to come in.

13 So he was fully clothed just like he was
14 working the streets that night. It wasn't someone in
15 casual dress. And I know that -- I don't know how many
16 cars went over there. I don't know.

17 Q I'm going to momentarily open this up to
18 the Grand Jurors, see if they have any questions of
19 you.

20 A Okay.

21 Q You have been a great witness. You've
22 got good recall. I want to make sure that when you
23 walk out of here you don't say, "Gosh, I didn't get a
24 chance to say this or this, or I wish he would have
25 asked me."

1 I want you to say anything that is on
2 your mind. Is there anything that you want to mention
3 now that we haven't covered?

4 A Well, the only thing about the Bonanno
5 incident, I'll always feel in my heart, and nobody will
6 ever take it away from me, that he had no business
7 being in there. He had no business.

8 And I'm just saying that because it's me.
9 The man never talked to me. He could care less if I
10 was to get run -- this is a horrible thing to say, but
11 if I got run over by an automobile or something he
12 wouldn't care. He wouldn't even know who I am.

13 And he was talking up a storm and he was
14 just as nice. And that part, I'm sorry, but I feel in
15 my heart he had no business being in there. He knew I
16 was in there. If I had gone straight to the bathroom,
17 I would have caught him. We would have just -- we
18 would have run into each other.

19 Q Was he nervous when he came out of that
20 room?

21 A Yes, he was nervous. He was all
22 da-da-da-da-da-da-da.

23 Q You mean the talking indicated --

24 A The talking, idle conversation. He asked
25 me how I like working over in juvenile. I don't work

1 in juv -- like that was my permanent assignment. And
2 then he --

3 Q Question.

4 A Go ahead.

5 Q Judge Holder has a photograph on this
6 wall, does he not, of him marching, or do you recall
7 that?

8 A On that wall?

9 Q Yes, ma'am.

10 A No. The photograph that he has of him
11 marching, if you're talking about the one that he's
12 in -- when he was in West Point, the military and he's
13 marching? It's over -- no, it was over here. He's
14 moved it because he's got something else there.

15 But he didn't -- he didn't put that
16 picture up until afterwards, if I'm recalling right.
17 The picture of him is over here behind the sofa.

18 Q Okay. All right.

19 A And then there's one of the General
20 there.

21 Q Yes, okay. All right. You've been
22 helpful. I'm going to see if we have any questions.

23 A Okay.

24 EXAMINATION

25 BY GRAND JUROR:

1 Q Am I correct in believing that \$500 is
2 the maximum any one person can give to a campaign fund?

3 A I have no idea, that part.

4 Q Is that correct? I don't know, is five
5 hundred the maximum?

6 MR. HILL: We will cover all those
7 thoughts.

8 GRAND JUROR: Okay.

9 THE WITNESS: I don't know.

10 GRAND JUROR: Thank you.

11 BY GRAND JUROR:

12 Q Just real quick, the incident with Tara
13 Pisano's husband when he threatened the judge, was that
14 before or after Tara had broken off this relationship.

15 A That was after.

16 EXAMINATION

17 BY MR. HILL:

18 Q I apologize, but I thought it was
19 December 18th of '99?

20 A It was -- they broke off in April of '99.

21 Q I got you. I got you.

22 A And that was December '99. Oh, I just
23 thought of something. Okay. The reason -- I know the
24 reason why he went off because he had got -- can I?

25 Q Yes, ma'am.

1 A The reason that all this all started that
2 day, he got into the computer and he had seen what Tara
3 had written about the chronology, you know, what -- of
4 the events.

5 And he knew about a lot of the stuff that
6 was in the notes, but there was things in there that
7 she hadn't told him yet, and she didn't want him to
8 know yet. And that's why, he saw that and that's what
9 caused him that whole day to be -- I had been out with
10 them.

11 I used to go out -- well, I still do, but
12 go out to supper and stuff with them. And he'd been
13 fine. I couldn't believe he had gone off like that. I
14 just, you know. So --

15 GRAND JUROR: You're referring to --
16 BY MR. HILL (resuming):

17 Q Who was his immediate officer that she
18 called?

19 A Deluca. Is that --

20 Q Was it a lieutenant or sergeant or --

21 A No, major.

22 Q Major.

23 A His supervisor. It was his major. It
24 would be his major.

25 MR. HILL: Thank you.

1 THE WITNESS: Yes.

2 EXAMINATION

3 BY GRAND JUROR:

4 Q Did you say on those interior doors in
5 the office that they were closed or opened? Were they
6 shut or open on an everyday basis?

7 A This door right here?

8 Q Yes, ma'am.

9 A Okay. This door stays closed all the
10 time.

11 Q Closed meaning shut?

12 A Shut, right.

13 MR. HILL: I think she means after hours,
14 not during.

15 Q Yeah, after hours.

16 A After hours it's locked. It's never
17 opened.

18 Q The inside door is locked?

19 A This door here stayed -- this door, he
20 never opens that door. Because basically this is his
21 private office. So this door stays closed and this
22 door stays closed.

23 This door stays unlocked when he's there
24 so if he has to make a quick getaway or somebody -- he
25 can --

1 (Laughter.)

2 A I don't know any other way to put it,
3 run -- I'm right behind him -- he runs into here so
4 this door will stay unlocked.

5 This one stays locked and this one stays
6 locked. And they are the kind of doors, too, that you
7 can't unlock them, like, as soon as -- like if this
8 door is locked and you closed this door, it will lock.
9 It will lock right on you. So it has that kind of
10 lock.

11 Q It's like that door, when the knob's
12 turned it locks?

13 A Right. But then that door just slams
14 shut.

15 FURTHER EXAMINATION

16 BY MR. HILL:

17 Q Do you believe that, for instance, when
18 Myra Gomez leaves at 4:30 every day, she makes sure
19 those doors are locked, those doors are at least
20 closed?

21 A Right. See, too, the thing about it was
22 what really caught my -- I had come back that day and
23 those doors were all closed. I had been back there at
24 lunchtime and everything was closed.

25 And, oh, I know something else, too.

1 When I went back -- well, after I, you know, had an
2 uneasy feeling about all this that happened, that's
3 when I went back about ten minutes after 6:00 to check
4 all of this out.

5 And the judge -- I walked around. I
6 couldn't tell nothing was messed up because his stuff
7 was all around. But the one thing that caught me, this
8 chair right here was turned around facing his credenza.
9 And I had been in there earlier that day and that chair
10 was turned around facing in there. And that's why I
11 said this is not right.

12 So I called my -- I had to find where my
13 judge was because I was going to call and tell him,
14 "Hey, somebody was in here and I don't know what was
15 going on." But --

16 MR. HILL: Any other questions?

17 FURTHER EXAMINATION

18 BY GRAND JUROR:

19 Q Did you -- or you call your judge and
20 say, "I've got a problem."

21 A I -- what I did --

22 Q Wait, these are my words.

23 A Okay. All right. Go ahead.

24 Q And he said, "Oh, you do? I better send
25 an officer over to maybe write a report up." Did that

1 happen?

2 A No. No.

3 Q Okay.

4 A What I did was I -- when I went back
5 because I had this real uneasy feeling, I had to wait
6 until Teen Court started, and then there was another
7 deputy over there.

8 So I then came back. I said I was going
9 to go ahead and call my judge because I knew Judge
10 Bonanno had no business being in there and I wanted my
11 judge to know. So I called his wife because I didn't
12 know how to get ahold of him.

13 She, in turn, called him, and he was
14 supposed to call me at home. I did not discuss with
15 her what I had found and what I had suspected. And
16 then he called me at home.

17 But if it had been any other judge that I
18 work with, not my judge, I would let that judge know
19 that there was somebody different in their office.
20 Because I have a job to do, and I feel that if I hadn't
21 told him and he found out, I would lose all
22 credibility, not because he's my judge, but that's my
23 job.

24 I don't know whether he had any business
25 being in there, I really don't. A man that never comes

1 down to visit us, why is he in there?

2 MR. HILL: Okay, next question.

3 BY GRAND JUROR:

4 Q Could we see that panel up there for a
5 second? Let's go to the judge's chambers.

6 A Okay.

7 Q And to the right of the exit door as you
8 face the door standing in the judge's office. What is
9 on that wall?

10 A Right?

11 Q No, I'm sorry. Let's go to the exterior
12 wall --

13 A Private office.

14 Q -- judge's chambers and you're facing the
15 door on your way out. What's on the right-hand wall to
16 your right?

17 A I don't remember. I couldn't tell you.
18 I can tell you where other things are. I don't really
19 remember what's up there.

20 MR. HILL: That's a fair answer.

21 GRAND JUROR: Okay.

22 THE WITNESS: I really can't.

23 MR. HILL: Yes, ma'am.

24 BY GRAND JUROR:

25 Q Who typically is the first person to open

1 that front entry door in the morning? Who's the first
2 person to usually go in that office in the morning?

3 A If I beat the judge, it's me. If he
4 beats me, it's him. It's whoever gets there first in
5 the morning.

6 Q And you typically would leave prior to
7 Myra Gomez?

8 A If I didn't have to work late or if I
9 didn't have to have late court, yes.

10 Q So if you -- the days that you beat the
11 judge there, when you walk in in the morning, are all
12 those interior doors typically closed?

13 A Oh, yes, they are all locked. You're
14 talking about into the judge's, like into his chambers
15 and his private? Everything is locked, all the lights
16 are off when I walk inside.

17 Q So you go in that first reception area
18 door, the door going into his private office is closed
19 and locked?

20 A Uh-huh.

21 Q The door going into the break room is
22 closed, probably not locked?

23 A Right. Right. Correct.

24 Q And the door going into the chambers is
25 closed as well?

1 A Correct.

2 GRAND JUROR: Thank you.

3 BY GRAND JUROR:

4 Q I have a question. Would you have
5 normally called Judge Holder if it was one of his
6 acquaintance judges, or just because it was Judge
7 Bonanno?

8 A No, I would have called whoever was in
9 there. Even if his good friends that I knew come down
10 there, I still would have told him. I would have still
11 told him, because I want him to know.

12 MR. HILL: Yes, sir.

13 BY GRAND JUROR:

14 Q Did you ever know of any files that Judge
15 Holder might be holding about other judges or any other
16 activity going on in the courthouse?

17 A The only thing that I knew that I could
18 possibly think that Judge Bonanno was in there because
19 of the incident with Coe and the e-mail and so forth,
20 Judge Holder makes copies of all newspaper articles and
21 he keeps them filed in his drawer.

22 So, my way of thinking is he was in there
23 to check to see if he could find out, you know, was he
24 making copies, or who he was sending copies to, or
25 whatever. Because I knew where this file was. I knew